

MSWE403 : GERONTOLOGICAL SOCIAL WORK

Objectives

1. To understand concepts and perspectives in gerontology and Gerontological work.
2. Study the physical mental, sexual, emotional, economic, social and spiritual aspects of ageing and emerging needs.
3. Understand and analyse the policies, laws and programmes affecting older persons.

Unit 1

Concept of old age & Gerontological Social Work.

Unit 2

Health of older persons

- a) Role of nutrition
- b) Longevity and physical health.
- c) Mental and emotional health.
- d) Ill health, DISABILITIES
- e) Sexuality in old age
- f) Alternative medicine and prevention of illness.
- g) Spirituality and old age, yoga and meditation.
- h) Exercise pertaining to old age.
- i) Health intervention: periodical check up, information and awareness about prevention of problems, reaction and creative art programmes, spiritual discourses, counselling, physical aids and access to geriatric treatment.

Unit 3

Older persons and livelihood

- a) Work participation of older persons in the organized and unorganized sectors.
- b) Economic situations of older persons.
- c) Age related policies and laws for education employment, retirement, social security and pensions.
- d) Intervention needs: Retirement planning, investments and making a will, training and opportunities for income generation, employment exchange and sponsorships programmes.

Unit 4

Older Persons and Family

- a) Intervention of older persons with parents, spouse, children, children -in-laws, grandchildren and others.
- b) Care giving roles between older persons and the family.
- c) Issues of division of property, housing and social security.
- d) Issues of neglect, abuse violence and abandonment.
- e) Review of laws for inheritance and protection from abuse.
- f) Intervention needs: Raising family awareness.

Unit 5

Policy legislation and schemes for older persons .

- a) National policy for older persons , 1999 schemes for the Welfare of the aged, Institutional care, Day care and mobile Medicare units. Laws affecting older persons. Policy and plan for older persons.

Unit 6

Specific illness of old age (mental and physical)

Unit 7

Intervention

DEVELOPMENTAL PROGRAMMES for preparations for old age, retirement planning, programmes for preparation for understanding death and bereavement, and raising family and community awareness about ageing and death, Thanatology and Bereavement counselling, Non institutional services, community services: Continuing educations mutual/ self help groups, second career, training of older persons as volunteers, counselling and aid to older persons, day care centres, home/ family based services, telephone helplines, information and referral services.

References

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3. Irudaya Rajan, S., Mishra, U.S. and Sarma, P.S.(1997) *Indian Elderly Asset or Liability*, New Delhi : Sage Publications.
4. Khan, M.Z. (1997) *Elderly in Metropolis*, New Delhi : Inter India Publishers.
5. Krishnan, P. and Mahadevan, K. (eds.) (1992) *The Elderly Population in the development World :Policies, Problems and Perspectives*, Delhi: B.R. Publishing.
6. Vardhana Collective (1999) *Vardhana The Women of Age : A Consultation on the Status of Women and Ageing in India*. Mumbai; Vacha, A Women's Resource Centre.
7. World Assembly on Aging (1982) *International Plan of Action on Aging*, Vienna.